

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 15-32, and 33-40 are now in the application. No claims been canceled. No claims have been amended. No new claims have been added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 17,18, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 35, 36, 38 and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Narayanaswami (USPN 6,556,222). Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), on the grounds that Narayanaswami does not anticipate the present invention. The effective date of Narayanaswami is June 30, 2000. However, as detailed in the attached 37 CFR 1.131 declaration (Exhibit A) and its attachment (Exhibit B), the present invention was reduced to practice prior to this date. Consequently, Narayanaswami is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), and therefore cannot, as a matter of law, anticipate the claims of the present invention. Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 36 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narayanaswami as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Moon et al. (USPN 6,433,801). Claims 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 30, 32, 34, 37 and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narayanaswami as applied to claims 1, 8, 11, 14, 29, 31 and 36, and further in view of Rosenberg et al. (USPN 6,219,032). Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narayanaswami as applied to claim 17, and further in view of Hunt (USPN 6,029,122). Claim 20 stands rejected under 235 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narayanaswami in view of Curchod (USPN 5,826,578). Claims 21 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narayanaswami as applied to claims 1 and 23 in view of DeLine et al. (USPN 6,420,075).

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), on the grounds that Narayanaswami is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as discussed above. Since it is not prior art, it cannot be combined with other art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) to reject

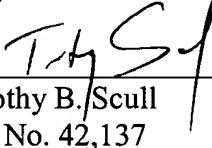
the claims. For this reason, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections.

As all claims now in the application are in condition for allowance, Applicant requests the application be allowed and pass to issuance as soon as possible.

It is believed that no further fees are due with this Response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment with respect to this patent application to deposit account number 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

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